



David E. Pierce, PhD
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

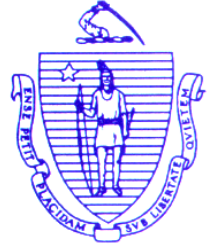
Division of Marine Fisheries

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September 6, 2018

Public Hearing Notice Mobile Gear Fishing Rules

Under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A and pursuant to the authority found at M.G.L. c. 130 §§ 2, 17A, 80 and 104, the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) is proposing draft regulatory amendments to 322 CMR §4.00, 7.00 and 8.00. Draft regulatory language and maps are on DMF's [website](#). The draft regulatory proposals are as follows:

1. **Mobile Gear Closures.** DMF is proposing to modernize how its mobile gear closure regulations by replacing outdated spatial references with GPS coordinates. This will not impact existing closure boundaries.
2. **Clarifications to Existing Mobile Gear Closure Rules.** DMF is proposing to clarify existing mobile gear rules affecting: prohibiting purse seine fishing at night; allowing the use of net strengtheners in the squid fishery; and establishing CAP-Purse Seine and Inshore Net endorsements as open entry permits.
3. **Recodification.** DMF is proposing to further consolidate and streamline its existing mobile gear fishing regulations.

Public Hearing Schedule

The Division of Marine Fisheries has scheduled a public hearing to take comment on these proposals. The public hearings will be held on:

6PM

October 4, 2018

DMF's Annisquam River Station

30 Emerson Avenue

Gloucester, MA 01930

Public Comment Instructions

The Division of Marine Fisheries will also accept public comment through 5PM on Monday, October 8, 2018. Please address all written comments to Director Pierce and submit to DMF by e-mail at marine.fish@state.ma.us or by post to 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114.